

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/648,481

Examiner

TAT CHI CHIO

Applicant(s)

TANAKA ET-AL.

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/6/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 34 and 35.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☒ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a method of reproducing data from a digital signal recording disc and a method of recording data to a digital signal recording disc.

Independent claim 34 is directed to a method of reproducing data from a digital signal recording disc. Claim 34 identifies the uniquely distinct features "the first parameter comprising a sampling frequency (fs1) of the digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the first channel group and a sampling frequency (fs2) of the digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the second channel group; the second parameter (CHANNEL ASSIGNMENT) comprising assignment of the digital audio signals to said first and second channel groups; the digital signal recording disc being void of a second area (VTS D) storing a video title set (VTS); and the first area also storing an audio manager (AMG) containing data for controlling the digital audio signals" and "decoding the read digital audio signals into a decoded digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the first channel group and a decoded digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the second channel group in response to the read second parameter (CHANNEL ASSIGNMENT); implementing digital-to-analog conversion of the decoded digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the first channel group in response to the sampling frequency (fs1) in the read first parameter; and implementing digital-to-analog conversion of the decoded digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the second channel group in

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response to the sampling frequency (fs2) in the read first parameter." The closest prior art Heo et al. (5,987,417) discloses a DVD audio disk reproducing device and method that fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Independent claim 35 is directed to a method of recording data to a digital signal recording disc. Claim 35 identifies the uniquely distinct features "generating an audio title set (ATS) containing digital audio signals of a plurality of channels divided into first and second channel groups (Group 1, 2); a quantization bit number (Q1) of the digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the first channel group and a quantization bit number (Q2) of the digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the second channel group; a sampling frequency (f1) of the digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the first channel group and a sampling frequency (f2) of the digital audio signal or signals of the channel or channels in the second channel group; generating an audio manager (AMG) containing data for controlling the digital audio signals." The closest prior art Heo et al. (5,987,417) discloses a DVD audio disk reproducing device and method that fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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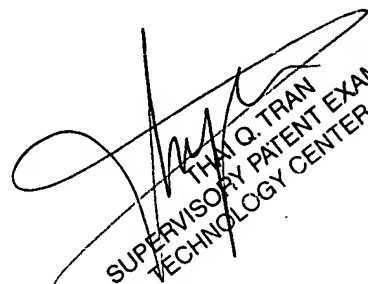
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TAT CHI CHIO whose telephone number is (571)272-9563. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM-6:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (571)-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. C.C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2621


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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